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Filed : July 29, 2003

#### REMARKS

The March 9, 2007 Office Action was based upon pending Claims 2-7, 9-12, 14-16, 23-29, 31-35, 37 and 39-48. This Amendment amends Claims 2, 10, 23, 31, 37, and 44 and adds new Claim 49. Thus, after entry of this amendment, Claims 2-7, 9-12, 14-16, 23-29, 31-35, 37, and 39-49 are pending and are respectfully presented for further consideration.

In the Office Action the Examiner rejects Claims 2-7, 9-12, 14-16, 23-29, 31, 33-35, 37, 39-42 and 44-48 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,333,276 to Solari ("the Solari patent") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,644,729 to Amini et al. ("the Amini patent"). Further, the Office Action rejected Claims 32 and 43 as being unpatentable over Solari in view of Amini and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,664,122 to Rabe et al. ("the Rabe patent").

The Applicant notes that the subject application is amended by this paper to more clearly recite what the Applicant regards as the invention. For example, Claim 2 is amended to recite "...routing requests originating from a component to a processor through a target controller and handling requests originating from the processor by;

buffering a first address with a first address buffer and a second address with a second address buffer, the first and second address buffers being in communication with a processor and a component, wherein the processor operates at a different speed than the component;

buffering a first data value with a first bi-directional data buffer and buffering a second data value with a second bi-directional data buffer, the first and second bi-directional data buffers being in communication with the processor and the component;

controlling the first address buffer and the first bi-directional data buffer as a matched pair such that the first address held in the first address buffer corresponds to the first data value held in the first bi-directional data buffer;

controlling the second address buffer and the second bi-directional data buffer as a matched pair such that the second address held in the second address buffer corresponds to the second data value held in the second bi-directional data buffer;..."

The Applicant respectfully notes that the Solari, the Amini, and the Rabe patents each fail to disclose the combination of features recited in Claim 2 as currently amended. The Applicant also notes that the Solari, the Amini, and the Rabe patents

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taking independently or in any combination fail to teach or suggest the combination of features recited in Claim 2 as currently amended. The Applicant thus believes that Claim 2 is patentable over the Solari, the Amini, and the Rabe patents and the other art of record and respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn. Claims 3-7 and 9, which depend from Claim 2, are believed to be patentable for the same reasons articulated above with respect to Claim 2, and because of the additional features recited therein.

Claim 10 is amended to recite "...routing requests originating from a component to a processor through a target controller;

buffering with a plurality of address buffers address requests originating from a the processor to a the component, wherein the processor operates at a different speed than the component;

storing status information in each of the plurality of address buffers, the status information determining the priority status of data transfers associated with the address requests;

bi-directionally buffering with a plurality of bi-directional data buffers data transfers between the processor and the component, wherein said data transfers ~~are~~ can be performed out of a previously defined order based on the priority status of each of the data transfers;..."

The Applicant respectfully notes that the Solari, the Amini, and the Rabe patents each fail to disclose the combination of features recited in Claim 10 as currently amended. The Applicant also notes that the Solari, the Amini, and the Rabe patents taking independently or in any combination fail to teach or suggest the combination of features recited in Claim 10 as currently amended. The Applicant thus believes that Claim 10 is patentable over the Solari, the Amini, and the Rabe patents and the other art of record and respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn. Claims 11, 12, 14, 15 and 16, which depend from Claim 10, are believed to be patentable for the same reasons articulated above with respect to Claim 10, and because of the additional features recited therein.

Claim 23 is amended to recite "...routing requests of a first component originating from a second component through a target controller and handling requests originating from the first component by;

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storing a first address in a first buffer in communication with a the first component and a the second component, the first buffer comprising status bits;

storing first data in a second bi-directional buffer matched with said first buffer so that the first address stored in the first buffer is related to the first data stored in the second bi-directional buffer...".

The Applicant respectfully notes that the Solari, the Amini, and the Rabe patents each fail to disclose the combination of features recited in Claim 23 as currently amended. The Applicant also notes that the Solari, the Amini, and the Rabe patents taking independently or in any combination fail to teach or suggest the combination of features recited in Claim 23 as currently amended. The Applicant thus believes that Claim 23 is patentable over the Solari, the Amini, and the Rabe patents and the other art of record and respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn. Claims 24-29, which depend from Claim 23, are believed to be patentable for the same reasons articulated above with respect to Claim 23, and because of the additional features recited therein.

Similar amendments are made to the base Claims 31, 37, and 44. The Applicant respectfully notes that the Solari, the Amini, and the Rabe patents each fail to disclose the combination of features recited in Claims 31, 37, and 44 as currently amended. The Applicant also notes that the Solari, the Amini, and the Rabe patents taking independently or in any combination fail to teach or suggest the combination of features recited in Claim 31, 37, and 44 as currently amended. The Applicant thus believes that Claim 31, 37, and 44 are patentable over the Solari, the Amini, and the Rabe patents and the other art of record and respectfully requests that the rejections be withdrawn.

Claims 33-35, which depend from Claim 31, are believed to be patentable for the same reasons articulated above with respect to Claim 31, and because of the additional features recited therein. Claims 39-42, which depend from Claim 37, are believed to be patentable for the same reasons articulated above with respect to Claim 37, and because of the additional features recited therein. Claims 45-48, which depend from Claim 44, are believed to be patentable for the same reasons articulated above with respect to Claim 44, and because of the additional features recited therein.

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**SUMMARY**

Although amendments and cancellations have been made, no acquiescence or estoppel is or should be implied thereby. Rather, the amendments and cancellations are made only to expedite prosecution of the present application, and without prejudice to presentation or assertion, in the future, of claims on the subject matter affected thereby. Furthermore, any arguments in support of patentability and based on a portion of a claim should not be taken as founding patentability solely on the portion in question; rather, it is the combination of features or acts recited in a claim which distinguishes it over the prior art.

In view of the foregoing, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such allowance is respectfully requested. If further issues remain to be resolved, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact the undersigned such that any remaining issues may be promptly resolved. Also, please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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